

## News Release

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## ICE ARRESTS 3 INDIVIDUALS WITH OUTSTANTING WARRANTS

Those arrested include an Army deserter and two accused of money laundering

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents arrested yesterday 34 year-old Jeff Rupert Nathaniel upon his arrival to the Luis Munoz Marin International Airport (LMMIA) from Antigua.

Nathaniel, who was referred to a secondary inspection by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspectors following his arrival in San Juan, had an outstanding warrant of arrest for military desertion from the Department of the Army.

The St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands (USVI) native was found missing from the 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in Fort Benning, Columbus, Georgia on Mar. 3, 2001 where he was allegedly attending Ranger school. The U.S. Army declared Nathaniel as a deserter on Mar. 11, 2001.

In a similar incident, ICE arrested yesterday at the San Juan Seaport 44 year-old Madjied Samsoedien and his wife Carol Kaersenhout following their arrival in San Juan from Aruba. A secondary inspection by CBP inspectors revealed that Samsoedien and Kaersenhout had an outstanding warrant of arrest by the U.S. Marshals Service for money laundering violations.

"The port of San Juan is no longer a transshipment point for criminals and those who try to evade justice," said Lydia St. John-Mellado, acting special agent in charge of ICE investigations in Puerto Rico. "ICE has been very successful in detecting and apprehending criminals who think Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands is an easy route back to the United States after having committed a crime and will continue using all our resources to stop them."

Nathaniel was turned over to the Department of the Arm, Liaison Office at Fort Buchanan in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico while Samsoedien and Kaersenhout remain in U.S. Marshals custody awaiting extradition proceedings.

# ICE #

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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.